

<b>Date:</b>	<b>February 4th, 2025</b>
<b>To:</b>	Chair Lively, Vice Chairs Gamba and Levy, and Members of the House Climate, Energy, and Environment Committee
<b>From:</b>	Association of Oregon Counties Legislative Affairs Manager, Tim Dooley
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Support – HB 3171</b>

Dear Chair Lively, Vice Chairs Gamba and Levy, and Members of the House Climate, Energy, and Environment Committee

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony in support of HB 3171. For the record, my name is Tim Dooley, and I am a Legislative Affairs Manager offering testimony on behalf of the Association of Oregon Counties (AOC).

The Association of Oregon Counties is a non-partisan member organization that advocates on issues that unite all county governing bodies and have an impact on county functions, governance, budgets, and services.

AOC supports the extension of the County Energy Resilience Program grants through the Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE) and the removal of the requirements to map critical infrastructure, which was a limiting factor for some counties to engage in this grant process. As you know, HB 3630 (2023) created this program to enable counties to begin planning for disruptions to the energy sector and ODOE has an open application window for counties to apply for grants. The modifications in HB 3171 will enable more counties to participate in this process, which is an important part of the county's emergency management planning function.

Local governments are best placed to have detailed on-the-ground knowledge of their communities, and the County Energy Resilience Program is a good example of the state-local partnership in the emergency management space. Counties appreciate the Legislature's willingness to examine this program and continue to make improvements to increase uptake in the grant program. Thank you for your time.

Best,

Tim Dooley  
Legislative Affairs Manager for Public Safety

**UNITED COUNTIES. UNITED OREGON.**

1212 Court St. NE | Salem, OR 97301-4181 | 503.585.8351 | [www.oregoncounties.org](http://www.oregoncounties.org)